

REMARKS

Claims 97, 99, and 105-111 are pending. Applicants thank Examiner Turner for withdrawing some of rejection reasons in response to Applicant's reply filed on May 16, 2005. Applicants also thank Examiner Turner for August 11, 2005 and October 17, 2005 telephone interviews.

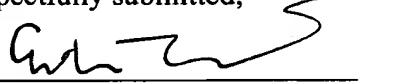
In the August 11, 2005 telephone interview, the Examiner indicated that the claims would be allowable if amended to no longer recite the language "at risk of such cell death." As a result of a further interview on October 17, 2005, in the interest of advancing the prosecution, Applicants hereby amend the claims so that this phrase no longer is recited. Applicants state for the record that they introduced this language for clarity purposes. Applicants submit that even without reciting the language "at risk of such cell death," the claims still embrace all neuronal cells to be contacted by a morphogen, including those are at risk of dying from a neuropathy or physical or chemical injury of neuronal cells.

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the claims be allowed, and await for a favorable determination.

Applicants believe no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. JJJ-P06-504 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: October 17, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Erika Takeuchi

Registration No.: 55,661
ROPES & GRAY LLP
Fish & Neave IP Group
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020-1104
(212) 596-9000
(212) 596-9090 (Fax)
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant